



# Department for Environmental Protection

## Environmental Excellence Awards

### Award Categories

One award will be given annually for each of the following four award categories. Businesses, organizations, communities, and individuals may be nominated or self-nominate for the awards.

#### **Environmental Pacesetter**

Conducts exemplary and innovative efforts to protect the environment and set an example of environmental stewardship for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Special consideration will be given to nominations that demonstrate a comprehensive approach to environmental issues and highlight the relationships between environmental benefit and associated social and economic benefit.

#### **Resource Caretaker**

Demonstrates progress in furthering the conservation or improvement of Kentucky's natural resources. Nominations may include the revitalization of underutilized or contaminated land, land management and preservation, habitat restoration, recycling programs, pollution prevention, water-use reductions, and energy efficiency.

#### **Community Environmental Luminary**

Recognition for achievements in community-based environmental education and outreach. Environmental education may be organized efforts to teach about how natural environments function and, particularly, how human beings can manage their behavior and ecosystems in order to live sustainably. Environmental education and outreach may include mentoring activities. Nominations should identify the benefits to the local or regional target areas in which the nominee operates or is focused.

#### **KY EXCEL Champion**

A KY EXCEL member that demonstrates outstanding stewardship and achieves positive benefits for Kentucky's environment. Nominations must be for a current, active KY EXCEL member and may highlight activities that range from energy conservation, to improving air quality, to minimizing waste, to incorporating citizens to participate in positive environmental stewardship behaviors.

***We look forward to your nomination!***

### About the Awards Program

Kentucky's remarkable natural resources have helped shape our economy, culture and history. These resources also provide us with the responsibility of good stewardship. This requires vision, commitment and determination on the part of the agency, Kentucky's citizens and the individuals and companies governed by Kentucky's environmental requirements.

While our mission at the Department for Environmental Protection (DEP) is to protect and enhance the Commonwealth's environment, we know that individuals, businesses and organizations are committed to protecting and improving Kentucky's environment. DEP proudly recognizes and encourages such environmental excellence in the Commonwealth through the Department's Environmental Excellence Awards Program.

In the following page, you will find information on how to make a nomination, determine who is eligible and the selection process. If you are an environmental steward or know someone who is, we encourage you to apply. Don't waste this opportunity to recognize those individuals, organizations and businesses that on a daily basis commit to exemplary environmental performance.

**Every year, public nominations for the Environmental Excellence Awards are excepted from April 1 to June 30.**